the quotation, viz, Swiss France and Deutsche Marks.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Bhavnagar Tarapore Bombay Coastal broad gauge Railway Project

1532. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bhavnagar Tarapore Bombay Coastal broad gauge Railway project which is the shortest route for the entire Saurashtra region to link with Bombay has been pending for more than a decade and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government would earn more revenue and save unnecessary expenditure in case the above project is implemented; and

(c) whether Government propose to include this project in 8th Five Year Plan and if so, what are the details thereof and also the estimated cost thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) survey report has revealed that the project will be financially unremunerative.

(c) (i) No, Sir.

(ii) Does not arise.

Purchase of Switches and crossings from firms not capable of supplying

1533. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that RDSO suggested to Railways for purchasing of switches and crossings from certain firms who were not capable of supplying these materials; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) The position in respect of purchase of switches and crossings from firms is as under :—

Regular orders for the tendered quantity for fabrication and supply of switches and crossings are being placed on seven firms who are the established suppliers for these items.

In addition, developmental orders each for 100 nos. of switches and crossings outside the tendered quantity have been approved and processed for placement on 13 firms in order to promote new avenues of supply of these items and to create competition.

Developmental orders are being placed on 13 firms who shall have to get the prototypes of switches and crossings inspected and cleared by Research Designs and Standards Organisation (RDSO) before regular manufacture to ensure that switches and crossings confirm to requisite specifications.

Earnings from the Tube Railway, Calcutta

1534. SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether it is a fact that the earnings of the tube railway in Calcutta has gone down by 30 per cent since the hike in fares; and

(b) by when the entire tube railway projects in Calcutta is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) In 1995.

पूर्व रेलवे में चोरी के मामले

1535. **श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह** : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत एक वर्ष के दौरान पूर्व रेलवे में चोरी की कितनी घटनाएं हुई और उन में कितना माल बरामद किया गया है;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि रेलवे में चोरी के ऐसे मामलों में रेलवे कर्मचारियों और रेलवे पुलिस की मिलीभगत होने के आरोप लगाए जाते हैं ; और